BIRCHINGTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TERM 1: 1st September – 16th October 2026

School Values:

Peace, Hope, Love, Forgiveness & Respect

Learning and growing; Safe in God's Love

MESSAGE FROM MRS WILSON

I know that I say this every term, but these past few weeks have really flown by! School has been so busy with children settling into their new classes, after school clubs up and running, inter-school sports fixtures, trips out and Harvest celebrations. There has been a really wonderful learning atmosphere around the school and I love nothing more than a queue of children proudly lining up outside my office door with books in hand, eager to show off their best work. Our friends at Morgan Sindall have been helping our Site Team with the development of the Forest Area by creating some pathways to section off the space, providing us with some wood materials to build a perimeter fence and creating some bespoke bug hotels. Mr Drew and Mr Blake have been working alongside Mrs Loxton (who is currently undertaking her Forest Leader training) to design a fantastic forest school and they're planning to spend the half term holiday in there to really start making a fantastic space for everyone to use.

We all hope you have a really relaxing two week half term holiday. We will see everyone back in school on Monday 2nd November.

Mrs Wilson

AN AUTUMN PRAYER – WRITTEN BY IMOGEN AND MEGAN IN 4K

Dear God,

Thank you for Autumn.

Thank you for the trees and the acorns that fall from them.

Thank you for the harvest and the farmers that grow our food.

Please may everyone have enough food to eat this harvest.

Amen



NEED HELP OR ADVICE?

If you are struggling financially or would like any support or advice, please Sarah Cooper our Parent Support Advisor on 07890 161150. You can also contact her via e-mail: flo@birchington.kent.sch.uk







Dear Parents & Carers

As we move with speed up to the end of term 1 the School can enjoy the luxury of a two week break and many of the Parents/Carers I have spoken to are taking the opportunity either to get away from Birchington or to spend time enjoying what the local area has to offer for leisure and culture. However you are intending to spend the fortnight, I hope that you will all have fun, rest and relaxation.

We are very pleased to welcome a new Parent Governor and a Co-opted Governor to our team this term and we would still like to grow in number over the next two terms. I will ask them to write a short introductory piece in the next newsletter.

This term, working alongside our new Governance Professional, we are continuing to work either as a whole Governing Body or with a smaller group focused mainly on finance and health and safety. Both these meetings are face to face although there is the option for individual governors to meet on TEAMS. Over the next term we will all take on a link governor role with a single or group of subjects. We will meet every other term either on TEAMS or face to face with our subject leaders.

Once again, everyone in our school community, enjoy the holiday and keep safe.



Loraine Bant (Chair of Governors)

loraine.bant@birchington.kent.sch.uk

We are extremely happy to announce that we are using the new Arbor App in school. If you haven't already done so, please download and sign in. You are able to order/pay for school lunches, book/pay for places in breakfast club, extended day provision and pay for any school trips via the App. Should you have any questions or queries, please feel free to contact a member of the office staff.

Arbor

Our School Values word of the week is:

RESPECT



SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Mr Jonathan Forwood
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs Louise Wilson
Headteacher



Mrs Alison Blake
School Business Manager

WIDER LEADERSHIP TEAM



Mrs Derbyshire
Lower Phase Leader



Miss Edmunds
Upper Phase Leader



Mrs Downs
Inclusion Leader

MEET OUR PASTORAL TEAM

Sarah Cooper - Parent Support Advisor



My name is Sarah, I am the Parent support Advisor here at Birchington CE Primary School.

I am here to support you and your family with any worries or challenges that might affect your child's learning, attendance or well-being at school.

If you have any concerns around home life, I can provide advice, information or signpost you to services that can help, such as family support, health services or community organisations.

I am here to offer a listening ear if you need someone to talk to.

No concern is too small, please contact Sarah on flo@birchington.kent.sch.uk or call on 07890 161150.

Ellie Chapman - Child Support Worker

My name is Ellie and I am the Child Support Worker here in Birchington CE Primary School.

My job role here at Birchington is to provide 1-1 counselling for our children in a safe and welcoming space allowing them to feel supported and heard.

If you feel your child/children would benefit from this type of support, then please do not do not hesitate to email me on ellie.chapman@birchington.kent.sch.uk.

I look forward to hearing from you.

I look forward to hearing from you.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU

An interview with Mr Forwood



- **What is your favourite animal ?**

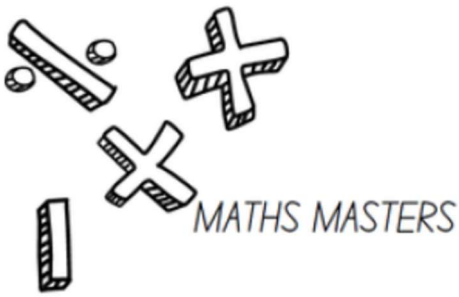
  My favourite animal is a leopard. I saw one when on a safari in Africa and I remember it being very elusive – I was spellbound by it. I was 29 years old.

- **What is your favourite thing about Maths ?**

  I love to work out the answer and then check it by using another method like the inverse.

- **What is your favourite part of your job ?**
  My favourite part is spending time with the children in school. I love it when I teach a child something and they say 'Oh, I get it'!
- **If you had one wish for the school what would it be ?**
  I would wish for our new building to be built really quickly. Our temporary buildings are nice but it will be great to have the brand new building.
- **What one thing would you change about our school ?**
- I would like us to have our own swimming pool to save the Year 4 children going on the minibus each week.
- **What is your dream job ?**
  I'm doing it ! In my spare time I cricket score so if I had more time or when I retire one day, I would like to do it more. When I was young, I wanted to be an international cricketer but I wasn't good enough.
- **What is your favourite school dinner ?**
  Curry and rice.
- **What do you like to do in your spare time ?**
  I love to spend time with my wife and children but also my Mum, Dad, brother and sister. I like to watch films at home and at the cinema, I like to read and go on long walks with my dog.
- **What is your favourite book ?**
  The Three Muskateers is my favourite book and it is a brilliant story. It was written over 150 years ago about three bodyguards to the king and was set around 300 years ago. There's lots of sword fighting, romance and action and great characters.
- **What is your dream car ?**
  My dream car would be a black Ferrari !! I was lucky to drive one when my brother got married and I drove it all the way from Yorkshire back home.
- **What is your favourite thing about being in school ?**
  I love working with the children and adults. I once heard a saying that says 'If you choose a job that you love, you'll never work a day in your life', and I love my job.
- **If you could go on holiday anywhere in the world, where would you go ?**
  I would go back to Africa on safari.

Interviewed by Bella, Hattie B & Louise in 6A



To support each child with their own personal Maths journey, we are excited to introduce Maths Masters. From the beginning of term 2 (term 3 for Reception), your child will complete a Maths Masters sheet twice a week. This is separate from their whole class Maths learning. The children need to complete the whole sheet correctly in order to move on to the next; where a child struggles to do this, support will be offered to them in class.

Maths Masters is designed to cover all the key number facts that will aid your child as they move through the Maths National Curriculum. It allows them to revisit any areas of maths that they are not yet secure with.

Your child will be able to bring their completed sheets home to share with you. Please support them to work on questions they find difficult. The level your child will start on has been decided based on their last assessment in the previous school year. It may be that your child feels their starting level is too easy for them. If this is the case, please be positive about this and reassure them that they will therefore move through the levels quickly. We appreciate that, as with any new scheme, it may take a short amount of time for things to even themselves out.

If you have any questions or concerns about Maths Masters, please speak directly to your class teacher or email Mrs Axtell (Maths Subject Leader) at lucy.axtell@birchington.kent.sch.uk.

BIRCHINGTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher's Pupil of the Week

04/09/2026

Holly (1D), Austin (1P), Grace (2BC), Matthew (2C), Oscar (3A), Alex (3H), Shay (4H), Daisy (4K), Alfie (5E), Jaxson (5U), Casey (6A), Sienna F (6W)

11/09/2026

Gary (1D), Primrose (1P), Isla (2BC), Sutton (2C), Emmy (3A), Sophia (3H), Pippa (4H), Tanisha (4K), Mia (5E), Oliver (5U), Saoirse (6A), Eliza-Belle (6W)

19/09/2026

Ivy (1D), Huda (1P), Belle (2C), Elsie (2BC), Belle (2C), Noah (3A), Michael (3H), Sachin (4H), Poppy (4K), Aurora (5E), Louie (5U), Archie (6A), Pepper (6W)

25/09/2026

Tommy M (1D), Rose (1P), Betsy (2BC), Dolly (2C), Tommy (3A), Jude (3H), Harper (4H), Asher (4K), Lennon (5E), Sydney (5U), Darcie-Rose (6A), Isaac (6W)

02/10/2026

Effie (1D), Hugo (1P), Evie (2BC), Penny (2C), Miss Menzies, Armarnie (3H), Giselle (4H), Ayden (4K), Everly (5E), Oscar P (5U), Dolly (6A), Florence (6W)

09/10/2026

Oscar (1D), Jacob (1P), Sienna (2BC), Alfie (2C), Zubair (3A), Dylan (3H), Gracie (4K), Sam (5E), Zachary (5U), Aliyah (6A), Sienna H (6W)

16/10/2026

Bella (1D), Elliya (1P), Class 2BC, Finn (2C), Skyla (3A), Paolo (3H), Bertie (4H), Rishiva (4K), Darwin (5E), Roman (5U), Willow (6A), Lily (6W)

WELL DONE TO ALL OF YOU !



LEARNER OF THE WEEK



THIS AWARD IS GIVEN TO A MEMBER OF THE CLASS WHO HAS DEMONSTRATED OUTSTANDING LEARNING BEHAVIOURS THIS WEEK. THEY HAVE SHOWN A POSITIVE ATTITUDE, RESILIENCE, A GROWTH MINDSET AND A DETERMINATION TO DO THEIR BEST.

04/09/2026

Harry G (1D), Rose (1P), Thomas (2BC), Rosie (2C), Brodie (3A), Frankie (3H), Sidney (4H), Ysabella (4K), Ruby (5E), Harriet (5U), Isabella (6A), River (6W)

11/09/2026

Ismail (1P), Jasper (2BC), Eli (2C), Millie (3A), Isabel (3H), Alfie (4H), Ned (4K), Jack (5E), Max (5U), Willow (6A), Emily (6W)

19/09/2026

Henry (1P), Poppy (2C), Sienna (2BC), Poppy (2C), Gabriella (3A), Yuna (3H), Evie (4H), Evelyn (4K), Archie (5E), Lilah (5U), Louise (6A), Jenson (6W)

25/09/2026

Daisy (1D), Bobby (1P), Evie (2BC), Amy (3A), Teejay (3H), Connie (4H), Rishi (4K), Jakob (5E), Jack (5U), Jamie-Adam (6A), Grace H (6W)

02/10/2026

Rohan (1D), Jesse (1P), Alfie L (2BC), Stanley (2C), Betsy (3A), Alice (3H), Freddie (4H), Eden (4K), Teondre (5E), Emilia (5U), Maya (6A), Zara (6W)

09/10/2026

Harry G (1D), Eshan (1P), Grace (2BC), Theo (3A), Sebastian (3H), Poppy (4K), Lennon (5E), Ivy (5U), Darcie (6A), Phoebe J (6W)

16/10/2026

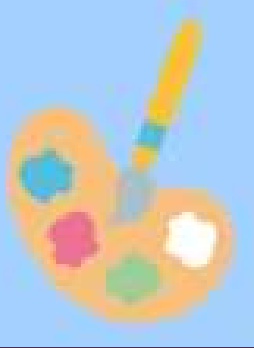
Gary (1D), Romeo (1P), Lily (2BC), Morgan (2C), Ronnie G (3A), Finlay (3H), Pippa (4H), Isabelle (4K), Nancy (5E), Olivia (5U), Rosie (6A), Bailey (6W)

CONGRATULATIONS









BIRCHINGTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

VALUE OF THE WEEK

04/09/2026 – LOVE

Ivy (1D), Woody (1P), Betsy (2BC), Ivy-Mai (2C), Harper (3A), Ivy (3H), fleur (4H), Evelyn (4K), Bea (5E), Amber (5U), Kobi (6A), Phoebe O (6W)

11/09/2026 – RESPECT

Albie (1D), Lottie (1P), Poppy (2BC), Ada (2C), Theo (3A), Lottie (3H), Siana (4H), Megan (4K), Thomas (5E), Elliott (5U), Hattie B (6A), Jenson (6W)

18/09/2026 – FORGIVENESS

Frankie (1D), Finley G (1P), Dennis (2C), Arthur (2BC), Dennis (2C), Lottie A (3A), Kaiden (3H), Pacey (4H), Zara (4K), Darcie (5E), Baran (5U), Henry (6A), Luke (6W)

25/09/2026 – HOPE

River (1D), Maisie (1P), Georgia (2BC), Stefka (2C), Daisy (3A), Ellie-Ann (3H), Olivia (4H), Aoife (4K), Evie (5E), Isabelle (5U), Hattie F (6A), Iva (6W)

02/10/2026 – PEACE

Louis (1D), Darcy (1P), Ameerah (2BC), Neveah (2C), Oliver (3A), Bonnie (3H), Nellie (4H), Emily (4K), Havin (5E), Daisy (5U), Mia (6A), Kathryn (6W)

09/10/2026 – LOVE

Uzair (1D), Maisie (1P), Jasper (2BC), Sophie (2C), Jenson (3A), Nyx (3H), Albie (4K), Zayne (5E), Florence (5U), Lucy (6A), Marty (6W)

16/10/2026 – RESPECT

Lulah (1D), Josiah (1P), Samay (2BC), Jack (2C), Edward (3A), Emily (3H), Ava (4H), Jenson (4K), Ethan (5E), Everley (5U), Sam (6A), Cody (6W)

WELL DONE TO ALL OF YOU

Times Tables Rock Stars

Each week, Key Stage 2 have a battle on Times Tables Rock Stars which runs from Tuesday to Wednesday. The children with the most points are our champions ! The results are as follows for class champion and runner up:-

11/09/2026

Sophie & Matthew (2C), Millie & Ronnie (3A), Jude & Isla (3H), Elizabeth & Pippa (4H), Rishiva & Georgia (4K), Reggie & Jack (5E), Oliver & Zachary (5U), Samuel & Isabella (6A), Phoebe J (6W)

Weekly winners – 4K

18/09/2026

Finn & Penelope (2C), Arthur & Louisa (2BC), Millie & Gabriella (3A), Jude & Finlay (3H), Pippa & Emily (4H), Rishiva & Isaac (4K), Jack & Reggie (5E), Sydney & Ivy (5U), Willow & Leo (6A), Jenson & Isaac (6W)

Weekly Winners – 4K

25/09/2026

Arthur & Louisa (2BC), Maddox & Finn (2C), Theodore & Millie (3A), Jude & Sebastian (3H), Pippa & Siana (4H), Rishi & Ayden (4K), Jack & Reggie (5E), Jack & Isabelle (5U), Willow & Aliyah (6A), Aurelia & Zara-Rose (6W)

Weekly Winners – 4K

02/10/2026

Arthur & Louisa (2BC), Finn & Poppy (2C), Millie & Lottie (3A), Jude & Isla (3H), Pippa & Elizabeth (4H), Rishiva & Isaac (4K), Zayne & Darwin (5E), Ivy & Oliver (5U), Willow & Aliyah (6A), Jenson (6W)

Weekly Winners – 4K

09/10/2026

Louisa & Arthur (2BC), Penelope & Finn (2C), Millie & Lottie (3A), Jude & Ruby (3H), Pippa & Elizabeth (4H), Rishiva & Ayden (4K), Jack & Darwin (5E), Harriet & Ivy (5U)

Weekly Winners – 4K

16/10/2026

Arthur & Louisa (2BC), Finn & Stanley (2C), Lottie & Millie (3A), Jude & Paolo (3H), Pippa & Nelly (4H), Rishiva & Isaac (4K), Jack & Reggie (5E), Amber & Oliver (5U), Willow & Aliyah (6A), Jenson & Aurelia (6W)

Weekly Winners – 4K

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU ALL !

GET INVOLVED AND

JOIN THE

Birchington CoE Primary School



WE NEED YOUR HELPING HANDS!

To find out how you can volunteer
email us: pta@birchington.kent.sch.uk



Autumn NEWSLETTER 2026

Successes

- We took £3107.91 at the Summer Fayre. 651 people attended. We received lots of great feedback.
We took £100 at Sweet Friday 16th July
We took £144.60 at Sweet Friday Sept 25th
- Sponsored Matchbox challange 25th Sept we took £443.33. Children had so much fun!!
-Easyfundrasising £222.28

IMPORTANT DATES

Non uniform day (bottles)	20th Nov
Parents Evening	24th & 25th Nov
Non uniform day (Sweets)	4th Dec
Birchington Lights Switch On	28th Nov
Christmas Fayre	11th Dec
Pantamime (TBC)	16th Dec TBC
Christmas Bauble Competition	TBC

Upcoming Events 2027

- Mar (TBC) Pirate Party Year R ,1 ,2
- Apr (TBC) - Disco (Year 3,4,5,6)
- Apr (TBC) - Easter fundraising
- May (TBC) - Colour Run
- June (TBC) - Summer Fayre

Lots of Sweet Fridays too!!

REMINDERS

- **Please provide any ideas on what you would like to see money raised spent on.**
If you have any spare time and would like to help the PTA please get in touch.

"Lots more fundraising events are to follow!"

CONTACT US

email: pta@birchington.kent.sch.uk



ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027

Term 2

Monday 2nd November - Friday 18th December 2026

Monday 2nd November – Flu Vaccinations

Monday 9th November – New Year R Open Day

Wednesday 11th November – Years 2, 3, 4 & 5 Remembrance Service (Children Only)

Thursday 12th November – Together Service at 3:30pm

Monday 16th November – Odd Sock Day

Friday 20th November – Non-uniform day – PTA bottle donations

Tuesday 24th November - Formal Parents Evening

Wednesday 25th November - Formal Parents Evening

Friday 4th December – Non-uniform day – PTA sweet donations

Tuesday 8th December – Rock Steady Music Concert at 10:00am

Thursday 10th December – Together Service at 3:30pm

Friday 11th December – Year 3 Carol Concert at 10:00am

Friday 11th December – Christmas Fayre at 3:20pm

Monday 14th December – Yr R & Yr 6 National Child Measurement Programme

Tuesday 15th December – Year R Nativity at 9:30am and 2:00pm

Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Lunch

Thursday 17th December – Year 1 Christingle at 10:00am

Thursday 17th December – Year 5 & 6 Carol Service at 2:00pm

FRIDAY 18th DECEMBER—LAST DAY OF TERM 2

December Break:

Monday 21st December 2026 - Friday 1st January 2027



ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027

Term 3

Monday 4th January - Friday 12th February 2027

Wednesday 3rd February – Young Voices Event at the O2 Arena

Tuesday 9th February - Safer Internet Day

FRIDAY 12th FEBRUARY - LAST DAY OF TERM 3

February Half Term:

Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February 2027

Term 4

Monday 22nd February - Thursday 25th March 2027

Thursday 4th March - World Book Day

Tuesday 23rd March – Rock Steady Concert

THURSDAY 25th MARCH - LAST DAY OF TERM 4

Easter Break:

Friday 26th March (Bank Holiday) - Friday 9th April 2027



ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027

Term 5:

Monday 12th April - Friday 28th May 2027

Wednesday 14th April - Formal Parents Evening

Thursday 13th April - Formal Parents Evening

W/B Monday 26th June – Year 5 Bikeability

FRIDAY 28th MAY - LAST DAY OF TERM 5

May Half Term:

Monday 31st May (Bank Holiday) - Friday 4th June 2027

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Term 6:

Monday 7th June - Wednesday 21st July 2027

W/B Monday 21st June – Year 6 Challenge & Celebration Week

Monday 21st June – Year 6 Production at 2:00pm

Tuesday 22nd June – Year 6 Production at 6:00pm

Thursday 1st July - Transition Day

Tuesday 13th July – Rock Steady Concert

Wednesday 21st July – Year 6 Leavers Service at 10:00am

WEDNESDAY 21st JULY - LAST DAY OF TERM 6

PLEASE NOTE THAT TERM DATES FOR THE 2027-2028 ACADEMIC YEAR ARE NOW ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE

Kent Family Hub

kae Family Learning
kent adult education

Thanet Family Learning Courses

Venue Family Hub	Course Title	Day	Date	Start Time	End Time
Priory	Supporting Your Child's Anxiety	Monday	5th Oct	12.30	14.30
Priory	Calm Together – Emotional Regulation You and Your Child	Monday	12th Oct	12.30	14.30
Priory	Supporting Your Neurodiverse Child to Eat Healthy	Monday	19th Oct	12.30	14.30
Birchington	*Bug Hunt*	Monday	26th Oct	09.30	11.30
Newington	*The Gruffalo – Celebrating the National Year of Reading*	Tuesday	27th Oct	09.30	11.30
Newlands	First Aid for Babies	Tuesday	17th Nov	09.30	11.30
Margate	First Aid for Babies	Tuesday	24th Nov	09.30	11.30
Northdown Road	*Festive Storytime and Crafts*	Thursday	3rd Dec	09.30	11.30

To help us provide the best possible experience for you, please let us know if you or your child have any disabilities or particular support needs.

Courses for adults and children 2 years plus

Parents and carers are welcome to bring non-mobile babies to the session.

To book your place on one of these FREE courses, please contact:

Email: thanetfhevents@kent.gov.uk

Kent County Council kent.gov.uk

Kent Adult Education is part of Community Learning and Skills

kentadulteducation.co.uk

Bringing learning to life